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USA Patent Application
Herbert BREINICH, et al
DISPLAY INSTRUMENT

Priority: German Patent Application
100 63 875.9 filed December 21, 2000

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R :

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend this application simultaneously with filing the
accompanying application as follows:

IN THE ABSTRACT

Cancel the Abstract and replace it with the Abstract presented on
the attached separate page.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, Line 1, delete this line paragraph, namely "Description"

Page 1, Line 6, before this line insert the following paragraph
heading:

FIELD AND BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Page 1, Line 39, before this line insert the following paragraph heading:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Page 3, Line 34, before this line insert the following paragraph heading:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

Page 3, Line 37, before this line insert the following paragraph heading:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

IN THE CLAIMS

(APPLICATION PAGES 7-8)

Before claim 1, change "Patent claims" to --WE CLAIM:--

Please cancel claims 1-8 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter therein and substitute new claims 9-20 therefor:

9. (new) A display instrument comprising at least two illuminated pointers which are located one on top of the other, each composed of a head and a pointer lug and rotatable independently of one another about a common display axis, the illuminated pointers being composed of a light-guiding material and each having a light entry face and light injected there exiting on a side of the pointer lugs facing a viewer, wherein for at least two of the illuminated pointers (4, 6) there is a common light source, and light is fed to the illuminated pointers (4, 6) via a light splitter (10).

10. (new) The display instrument as claimed in claim 9, wherein a drive shaft (7) of one of the pointers serves as a light guide and a portion of the drive shaft (7) is embodied as the light splitter (10).

11. (new) The display instrument as claimed in claim 10, wherein the light splitter (10) is plugged together with a main part (8) of the drive shaft (7).

12. (new) The display instrument as claimed in claim 10, wherein in the light splitter (10), one portion of the light exits in a direction of an axis of rotation and a further portion exits perpendicular thereto.

13. (new) The display instrument as claimed in claim 12, wherein an upper of the illuminated pointers (4) has the light entry face (30) which picks up the light exiting in the axial direction, said upper illuminated pointer (4) being plugged onto the light splitter (10).

14. (new) The display instrument as claimed in claim 13, wherein a lower of said illuminated pointers (6) has the light entry face which picks up laterally exiting light.

15. (new) The display instrument as claimed in claim 14, wherein a head (12) of the lower illuminated pointer (6) surrounds the light splitter (10) in an annular shape and the light entry face is embodied on an inner generated surface (32) in the head (12).

16. (new) The display instrument as claimed in claim 9, wherein the light splitter (10) has a frustum-shaped coaxial depression (21), a generated surface (24) of frustum (23) serving as a reflection face for laterally exiting light and a base face (25) serving as an exit face for axially exiting light.

Please add the following claims:

17. (new) The display instrument as claimed in claim 11, wherein in the light splitter (10), one portion of the light exits in a direction of an axis of rotation and a further portion exits perpendicular thereto.

18. (new) The display instrument as claimed in claim 17, wherein an upper of the illuminated pointers (4) has the light entry face (30) which picks up the light exiting in the axial direction, said upper illuminated pointer (4) being plugged onto the light splitter (10).

19. (new) The display instrument as claimed in claim 18, wherein a lower of said illuminated pointers (6) has the light entry face which picks up laterally exiting light.

20. (new) The display instrument as claimed in claim 19, wherein a head (12) of the lower illuminated pointer (6) surrounds the light splitter (10) in an annular shape and the light entry face is embodied on an inner generated surface (32) in the head (12).

R E M A R K S

This amendment is requested to be entered simultaneously with filing this application.

Claims 1-8 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter therein and claims 9-20 are presented therefor which have the same subject matter of claims 1-8, and present the claims in accordance with USA practice under 35 USC 112 and eliminate multiple-dependent form claims.

No multiple-dependent claims exist in this application as of the filing date and no multiple-dependent claim fees apply.

The specification and claims have also been amended for formal improvement to comply with USA practice.

An Abstract is presented on a separate page herewith.

Please enter this Preliminary Amendment prior to calculating the claim fees and prior to an action on the merits, which is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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Abstract

Display instrument

A display instrument with two illuminated pointers, in which instrument the illuminated pointers (4, 6) are supplied with light via a light splitter (10). The latter has a frustum-shaped depression (21) so that a portion of the light is radiated in the axial direction and passes into the upper illuminated pointer (4). A further portion is scattered radially at the generated surface (24) of the frustum (23) and passes into the lower illuminated pointer (6).